

Attorney's Docket No. 3477-116

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Pugh et al.

Group Art Unit:

3738

Appl. No.: 09/029,872

Examiner:

P. Prebilic

Filed: For:

June 29, 1998

ARTIFICIAL STABILIZED COMPOSITION OF

CALCIUM PHOSPHATE PHASE PARTICULARLY

ADAPTED FOR SUPPORTING BONE CELL ACTIVITY

April 11, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 8, 1999, please amend the abovereferenced application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please insert the attached "Abstract" after page 39. N.E.

In the Claims:

(Amended) [A composition as claimed in claim 1 or claim 9, wherein said silicon entities are] A bioactive artificial sintered composition for providing a morphology capable of consistently supporting bone cell activity thereon, said composition comprising stabilized calcium phosphate phases developed by the conversion of a hydroxyapatite substance in the presence of tetrapropyl orthosilicate stabilizing entities at sintering temperatures into insolubilized and stabilized tricalcium phosphate.

19. (Amended) A process [as claimed in claim 13] for stabilizing an artificial sintered composition of calcium phosphate phases having a morphology suitable for supporting bone cell activity thereon, said process comprising converting a hydroxyapatite substance into primarily